

[22750/468]

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

GROUP ART UNIT 3676

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Fabrice FOUGEROLLE

Serial No.

09/760,230

Filed

January 12, 2001

RECEIVED.

For

SEALING ARRANGEMENT

JUL 1 6 2003

Examiner

Enoch E. Peavey

GROUP 3600

Group Art Unit :

3676

Confirmation No.

1708

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: July 9, 2003

Reg. No. 31,792

Signature:

Richard M. Rosati

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2003, kindly amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 10, without prejudice, as follows:

(Amended) A sealing arrangement which includes a sealing ring having a sealing lip which is curved forward in the direction of an area to be sealed off and pre-tensioned so as to surround and form a seal around a circumference of a machine element to be sealed off,